

Message Text

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ACTION MCT-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 EB-08 FAA-00 DOTE-00 CTME-00 /086 W
-----020991 311109Z /13

R 301901Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1452
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 15800

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, GW
SUBJECT: BONN ANTI-HIJACKING DECLARATION: HIJACKING
INCIDENT CONSULTATION

REF: STATE 217347

1. EMBOFF DISCUSSED ATTEMPTED HIJACKING OF TWA FLIGHT
830 WITH ELFGEN (FLEISCHAUER'S DEPUTY) AT FRG FOREIGN
MINISTRY AND TOLD ELFGEN USG HAD INFORMED SWISS
GOVERNMENT OF US DESIRE TO PROSECUTE THOSE
RESPONSIBLE FOR THE HIJACKING, FOLLOWING THEIR
IDENTIFICATION. EMBOFF SAID WE ANTICIPATED FORMAL
REQUEST FOR THE HIJACKER(S) RETURN TO THE US FOR
PROSECUTION IF ADEQUATE IDENTIFICATION WAS MADE.

2. ELFGEN THANKED US F THE INFORMATION AND NOTED
THAT IT WAS UNFORTUNATE THAT THE SWISS AUTHORITIES
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WERE UNABLE TO IDENTIFY ANY PERPETRATORS. HE
VOLUNTEERED THE INFORMATION THAT IF ANY OR ALL OF
THE WOULD-BE HIJACKERS HAD BEEN GERMAN CITIZENS, THE
FRG WAS PREPARED TO ALLOW THE SWISS AUTHORITIES TO
PROSECUTE. ELFGEN EXPLAINED THAT THE USSR AND
CZECHOSLOVAKIA HAVE CONSISTENTLY PRESSURED THE FRG
TO RETURN THOSE PEOPLE INVOLVED IN SEIZING PLANES

FROM BLOC COUNTRIES AND TAKING THEM TO WEST GERMANY. THE FRG, IN TURN, HAS MAINTAINED THAT PROSECUTION AND IMPRISONMENT OF THESE INDIVIDUALS IN WEST GERMANY IS JUST AS SUFFICIENT AND LEGAL A RESPONSE AS EXTRADITION. THUS, ELFGEN STATED, THE FRG DID NOT WANT TO BE IN THE POSITION OF TAKING ONE STANCE WITH MOSCOW AND PRAQUE AND ANOTHER STANCE WHEN THE CASE INVOLVED GERMANS.

3. TURNING TO THE PROPOSED NEXT MEETING AMONG THE SEVEN, ELFGEN SAID THE FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS TOLD THE CANADIAN EMBASSY HERE THAT THE FRG WOULD WELCOME THE NEXT MEETING BEING HELD IN OTTAWA IF THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT WISHED TO DO SO. ELFGEN POINTED OUT THAT A MEETING IN OTTAWA BEFORE OR MOST PROBABLY AFTER THE ICAO MEETINGS IN MONTREAL SEEMED LOGICAL SINCE MANY OF THE LEGAL AIR EXPERTS WILL ALREADY BE IN CANADA. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT THE FRG WAS NOT COMMITTED TO AN OTTAWA MEETING AND WOULD BE OPEN TO SUGGESTIONS FROM ANY OF THE OTHER SIX.

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